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Changes to Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist (CRNA) Supervision Requirements

The purpose of this memorandum is to inform providers of changes to the Virginia Medicaid program's supervision and employment requirements for CRNAs who provide services to clients enrolled in Virginia's Fee-For-Service (FFS) Medicaid program. DMAS is conforming to existing professional guidelines requiring CRNA supervision by "a physician licensed to practice medicine or surgery in Virginia," or for dental services, by a "dentist in accordance with rules and regulations promulgated by the Board of Dentistry". Therefore, supervision and administration requirements for the delivery of anesthesia services can be provided by a CRNA when the Virginia Board of Nursing's CRNA supervision and practice requirements are met, and for services provided in a hospital setting, when the Virginia Department of Health's hospital licensure requirements are met. With this change, DMAS no longer requires that the CRNA be employed and directly supervised by an anesthesiologist.

The Medicaid Physician Manual has been changed to reflect this policy decision. The revisions to the Physician Manual are listed at the end of this memo; please review these changes carefully.

This policy change does not impact the current enrollment and practice requirements that Medicaid Managed Care Organizations place on CRNAs.

MEDICAID ENROLLMENT/BILLING STATUS OF CRNAs

This policy has not changed the other enrollment and billing requirements which stipulate that CRNAs who render services to FFS Medicaid clients must continue to bill through a licensed, participating provider's national provider identifier (NPI). DMAS does not directly enroll



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CRNAs in the Virginia Medicaid Program, however this policy does not modify the existing provider enrollment procedures for Medicare cross-over claims.

ELIGIBILITY AND CLAIMS STATUS INFORMATION

DMAS offers a web-based Internet option (ARS) to access information regarding Medicaid or FAMIS eligibility, claims status, check status, service limits, prior authorization, and pharmacy prescriber identification. The website address to use to enroll for access to this system is <http://virginia.fhsc.com>. The MediCall voice response system will provide the same information and can be accessed by calling 1-800-884-9730 or 1-800-772-9996. Both options are available at no cost to the provider.